

VZCZCXRO3201
PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHKO #1782 1130403
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 230403Z APR 07
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2935
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 0821
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 4354
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 6742
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1629
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 2815
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4044
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 001782

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - DOHA ROUND - TOKYO

LEAD STORIES: Most Monday morning papers gave top play to the results of Sunday's Upper House by-elections in Okinawa and Fukushima Prefectures, as well as local races. Tokyo Shimbun also front-paged PM Abe's speech Sunday in Tokyo, in which he disclosed plans to discuss the abduction issue with President Bush during their meeting later this month in the US.

¶1. "WTO Negotiations: Japan Must Revitalize Agricultural Industry" The moderate Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (4/23): "Japan is being forced to import more agricultural products in exchange for expanding its industrial exports. This puts the foundations of the nation's food self-sufficiency at risk, so the GOJ will have to accelerate agricultural reforms and revitalize the Japanese agricultural industry. Moves are underway to get the Doha Round of WTO trade liberalization talks back on track, with cabinet-level officials meeting next month in Tokyo to seek points of compromise. The major players remain at loggerheads over a reduction in agricultural subsidies.... Tokyo's primary concern is tariff caps.... Their imposition would deal a devastating blow to Japan, which has a 778 percent protective tariff on rice. However, given Japan's longstanding position of calling on developing nations to reduce their own tariffs on industrial products, there is little likelihood that Japan will be able to make it through future trade talks unscathed."

SCHIEFFER